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**CONSTITUTION**  
OF THE  
**AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY**  
**IN PARIS.**

INSTITUTED NOVEMBER 15, 1851.

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The American Medical Society in Paris was organized in the month of November, 1851, at a period when no special permit was required by the laws in force. The *coup d'état* followed in the month of December, and under the new law regulating societies, which was then enacted, no society was allowed to hold its sittings without a special ACT OF AUTHORIZATION from the police, or was exempt from its direct surveillance. The following is the Act granted at that time to the American Medical Society :

## ACTE D'AUTORISATION.

### PRÉFECTURE DE POLICE. — SECTION DE LA MONNAIE.

L'an mil huit cent cinquante-deux, le seize mars.

NOUS, GUSTAVE MARTINET, Commissaire de Police de la Section de la Monnaie, Conformément aux Instructions de M. le Préfet de Police, en date d'hier,

Donnons acte au sieur ROBERT R. McILVAINE, domicilié rue Jacob, n° 14, de la déclaration qu'il a faite à la Préfecture de Police, de la formation d'une Société dite *Médicale Américaine à Paris*, qu'il préside, et dont les réunions sont tenues le samedi de chaque semaine, de 7 à 11 heures du soir, rue Saint-André des Arts, n° 47, et ce, pour servir en tant que de besoin à ladite Société qui, toutefois, devra se conformer aux prescriptions suivantes, savoir :

1° Faire viser le susdit acte par le Commissaire de Police de la section sur laquelle les réunions périodiques ou toutes autres seraient ultérieurement tenues.

2° Transmettre à la Préfecture les modifications que l'on se proposerait d'apporter au règlement, et des lettres d'avis, cinq jours avant la tenue des réunions extraordinaires ; y déposer, chaque année, dans le courant de janvier, la liste de tous les sociétaires, le compte rendu de leurs travaux pendant l'exercice écoulé, ainsi qu'un exemplaire de tous les écrits que ladite Société fera imprimer.

3° Enfin, ne s'occuper, sous peine de dissolution immédiate, dans les conférences de ladite Société, d'aucun objet étranger au but social relaté d'autre part, et n'admettre, sans l'autorisation spéciale de M. le Préfet de Police, aucun Français dans les réunions précitées.

LE COMMISSAIRE DE POLICE,

**G. MARTINET.**

When the Empire was declared, a year afterwards, the first Act of Authorization was declared annulled, and a new one was required. Several months, however, elapsed before the Society was notified of this new requirement of the police, as will be seen by the date of the new Permit, which is as follows :

## ACTE D'AUTORISATION.

(N° 2)

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### PRÉFECTURE DE POLICE. — SECTION DE L'ÉCOLE DE MÉDECINE.

Nous, Commissaire de Police,

Notifions au sieur WILLIAM E. JOHNSTON, Président de la Société Médicale Américaine, dont les réunions ont lieu rue des Quatre-Vents, n° 6, demeurant Boulevard des Italiens, n° 12, la décision de M. le Préfet de Police en date du 18 octobre courant, qui :

Autorise la susdite Société à se constituer conformément au décret du seize mars 1852, aux conditions,

- 1° De n'apporter aucun changement aux statuts de la Société sans l'agrément de l'autorité ;
- 2° De prévenir des jours et heures des réunions ,
- 3° De ne pas s'occuper de politique ni de matière religieuse ;
- 4° D'adresser chaque année la liste des sociétaires ;
- 5° De n'admettre aucun Français comme membre honoraire, sans autorisation spéciale.

LE COMMISSAIRE DE POLICE,

**CHARLES ALLARD.**

Paris, 18 octobre 1854.

# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

# AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY

## IN PARIS.

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### **PREAMBLE.**

We, American physicians in Paris, acknowledging with gratefulness the advantages we here enjoy, and desiring to make them still more available for the cultivation and extension of medical science, do, in order to accomplish this design, hereby form a Society, with the following Constitution and By-laws for its government.

### **ARTICLE I.**

#### **Of the Name.**

This Society shall be known and designated as, "THE AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY IN PARIS."

### **ARTICLE II.**

#### **Of the Objects.**

The objects of this Society shall be :

1st. The formation of a library, especially of American medical literature, which shall always be freely open to the scientific men of every country.

2nd. The mutual improvement of the members in periodical reunions for the reading of medical papers and the discussion of medical subjects.

3rd. The diffusion of American contributions to medical science.

4th. The furnishing of information to newly arrived medical students from America, relative to the prosecution of their studies in Europe.

5th. The cultivation of a scientific and social acquaintance with the medical men of the Old World, who are hereby welcomed to a participation in the benefits of the Society.

### ARTICLE III.

#### Of the Members.

*Section 1.*—The membership of the Society shall be confined to the Graduates and Students of the regular medical profession.

All elections of members must be by a majority in ballot. The members shall, according to their professional standing, and the exercise of certain rights in the Society, be divided into five classes :—Active, Honorary, Privileged, Permanent, and Corresponding.

*Section 2.* — The *Active* class shall consist of the members chosen from the Graduates who are citizens of the United States of America, and resident in Paris.

After due notice of their election, they shall within three weeks, each pay an initiation fee of *ten* francs, sign the Constitution, and conform to the By-laws of the Society, or their election will become void.

The active members shall provide for the general welfare of the Society, and they *alone* shall have the right of voting, of holding office, and of nominating candidates for membership.

*Section 3.*—The *Honorary* class shall consist of the medical men whom the Society in electing, may deem worthy of marked re-

spect. They may be chosen without regard to their country or residence.

The name of every candidate for Honorary membership shall be first submitted to the Society, and if approved, it shall be ascertained whether the candidate is willing to sustain the proposed relation. If he is willing, he shall be formally elected.

The Honorary members shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of the Society, except those exclusively granted in this article to the Active members.

*Section 4.*—The *Privileged* class shall consist of two orders of members :

1st. Of those who may be elected from among Graduates, not eligible as Active members, but who may wish to avail themselves of the scientific advantages afforded by the Society; and

2nd. Of those who may be elected from among medical Students in Paris.

After having received due notice of their elections and recorded their names in a book prepared and kept for the purpose, the Privileged members shall have the free use of the books and papers of the Society; they may attend its meetings, and upon invitation by the Presiding officer, may participate in its discussions.

*Section 5.*—The *Permanent* class shall consist of past active members who shall pay to the Society within one year after leaving, the sum of *ten dollars*, or else annually the sum of *three dollars* until *fifteen dollars* be paid.

The Permanent members may be delegated by the Society to represent it in such ways as shall be deemed for its interests.

*Section 6.*—The *Corresponding* class shall consist of those elected from the past members, or other persons, who shall present an original essay which the Society considers of sufficient merit to entitle the writer to such distinction.

The corresponding members shall be requested to communicate with the Society at least once each year.

*Section 7.*—No initiation fee, or regular, stated payment, shall be received from Honorary or Privileged members.

*Section 8.*—Unworthy members may be expelled from the Society by the vote of *two thirds* of the Active members present at any regular meeting.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### **Of the Officers.**

*Section 1.*—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President,—a first Vice-President,—a second Vice-President,—a Corresponding Secretary,—a Recording Secretary,—a Treasurer,—and a Librarian;—also of such subordinate Officers and Standing Committees as the Society may deem fit to appoint.

*Section 2.*—The elections for the Officers whose duties are defined in this article, shall take place at the last regular meetings of the Society in the months of February, June and October;—and the newly elected Officers shall enter upon the discharge of their functions at the next regular meetings.

The elections of Officers shall be by ballot, and a majority in the ballot shall decide the election.

The Officers may be reelected.

*Section 3.*—The *President* shall preside at the meetings of the Society, and call special meetings upon the written request of *five* Active Members.

*Section 4.*—The *first Vice-President* shall preside in case of the resignation, absence, or inability of the President; and the *second Vice-President* shall preside in case of the resignation, absence, or inability of both the President and first Vice-President.

In case of the resignation, absence, or inability of the three presiding officers, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen *viva voce* at each meeting, who shall also serve in any emergency which may arise before the next regular meeting.

*Section 5.*—The *Corresponding Secretary* shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and receive and answer the communications made to it.

The Society may furnish him with instructions for his guidance, and shall require him to make accurate reports of the communications received or written by him on its behalf.

*Section 6.*—The *Recording Secretary* shall keep a correct, concise, and legible record of the proceedings of every meeting of the Society.

He shall, at every regular meeting, read the minutes of the preceding one, in order to afford the members an opportunity for correction or approval.

*Section 7.*—The *Treasurer* shall collect and receive all the monies due to the Society, and pay them only upon the order of the President, or other officer who may have presided at the meeting at which the appropriation was passed ; and these orders shall be his vouchers for his expenditures.

He shall, at the expiration of his office, render an account of all the payments received or made by him for the Society, and shall transfer to the Treasurer who succeeds him, the funds in his hands belonging to the Society, together with all the papers pertaining to the office.

*Section 8.*—The *Librarian* shall receive the Books and Journals of the Society, and superintend the Library and Reading Room.

*Section 9.*—If a vacancy, not otherwise provided for, should occur in any office, the Presiding Officer shall fill such vacancy, by the appointment of a member, who shall continue to discharge the duties of the office until the next regular election.

## ARTICLE V.

### Of the Quorum.

*Five Active members*, at any meeting, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## ARTICLE VI.

### Of Amendments.

Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws may be made at any regular meeting of the Society, by *two-thirds* of the Active members present, the proposed amendments having been submitted in writing to a regular meeting held, at least, *two weeks* previously.

# BY-LAWS.

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## ARTICLE I.

### **The Monthly Contribution.**

1. A monthly contribution of *two francs* shall be paid by each Active member.

2. Members who are absent from Paris for a longer period than one month shall not be required to pay monthly dues during their absence.

## ARTICLE II.

### **The Meetings and Rules of Order.**

1. The Society shall meet on *Tuesday evening* of every week, from the tenth of March until the tenth of September, at 8 o'clock, and from the tenth of September to the tenth of March at half-past 7 o'clock.

2. The order of proceedings at the regular meetings shall be as follows :

1. The call to order.
2. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting.
3. The proposal and election of members.
4. The introduction and initiation of new members.
5. Motions and resolutions relating to the general business of the Society.
6. Reports of committees.
7. Miscellaneous business, and election of officers.
8. Papers and remarks on medical subjects.
9. Reports from hospitals, statements of cases, etc.
10. Unfinished business of the evening.
11. The adjournment of the meeting.

3. One hour after the time appointed for the opening of the Society, the medical proceedings of the evening shall be entered upon, unless already commenced ; and all unfinished business shall come up after the conclusion of the medical proceedings.

4. Nominations for active and privileged membership shall be made in writing, and state the medical degree, and the residence at home and in Paris of the candidates; and said nominations shall lie over one week before being voted upon.

5. No candidate for any class of membership shall be present when his name is proposed or voted upon.

6. The nominator of the candidate for membership shall present the new member to the Society. In the absence of the nominator, the presiding officer shall perform that duty.

7. Motions and resolutions, on the request of a member, must be reduced to writing before being debated or voted upon.

8. No member, except the originator of the debate, shall speak more than twice upon the same subject, unless with the unanimous consent of the Society.

### ARTICLE III.

#### **Duties of the Officers, and of the Standing Committees.**

1. The President and first and second Vice-Presidents of the Society shall constitute a standing Finance Committee, to audit the accounts of the Treasurer at the end of his term of service, and to examine the validity of all payments made by that officer.

2. The Corresponding Secretary shall send written information of their election to all new members.

3. The corresponding Secretary, in giving notice of the election of *Active* members, shall insert the second paragraph of Section 2 of Article III. of the Constitution, as follows :

“ After due notice of their election, they shall, within a period of three weeks, each pay an initiation fee of ~~two~~ *francs*, sign the Constitution, and conform to the By-laws of the Society; or their election will become void.”

4. When a vote of thanks is passed by the Society for any contribution from a gentleman not an Active member, the Corresponding Secretary shall inform such gentleman in writing.

5. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary, after each regular election, to place cards in the various public places of Paris frequented by Americans, on which shall be stated the

time and place of meeting of the Society, and the several officers, names, and places of residence.

6. The Recording Secretary shall record at the head of the minutes of every meeting, the names of the members of the Society, and of the profession, who may have been present at any time during the meeting.

7. The Recording Secretary shall record, with the names of the candidates for membership, the names, also, of the members proposing said candidates.

8. The Treasurer, before the expiration of his term of office, shall exhibit in writing, and affix to the wall of the Society's chamber, the names of those members whose monthly dues may be in arrears.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### **The Library.**

“The American Medical Society in Paris” having established a Reading Room intended to be freely open to the scientific men of every country, has adopted the following rules for its government :

1. No smoking shall be allowed in the room.

2. Conversation, when necessary, shall be carried on in a low tone, particularly when other persons present are engaged in reading.

3. No member shall remove a book, periodical, or journal from the Society's apartments, unless by the unanimous consent of the Active members present at a regular meeting, and then not for a longer period than one month.

4. Every book, periodical, and manuscript belonging to the Society shall be carefully stamped with the Society's die.

5. All the books, periodicals, and bound journals shall be numbered, and recorded in a book kept for the purpose by the Librarian.

6. Members and visitors are requested to use the books and journals with care, and to put them in their places after reading.

## ARTICLE V.

### Miscellaneous.

1. Certificates of membership shall be granted to Active, Honorary, Permanent, and Corresponding members, at an expense, to Active members, of *one franc*. They shall be signed by the President, by the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, and shall not be granted until all the requirements of membership be complied with.

2. The members of the Society shall register their names and residences in a book kept for the purpose.

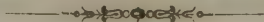
5. In accordance with the authorization and prescriptions contained in the following extracts from the minutes of the American Medical Association, delegates shall be chosen annually by ballot, in the month of March, from among Active or past Active members, to represent the Society at the Annual Meeting of that body.

“ At the meeting of the American Medical Association held in the city of St. Louis, in the month of May, 1854, the following amendment to the Constitution, proposed by Dr. D. F. Condie, of Philadelphia, at the meeting in New York in 1855, and laid over, according to rule, for one year, was unanimously adopted :

“ ‘ *Resolved* : — That the second clause of Article II. of the Constitution be so amended as to admit the American Medical Society in Paris to representation in this body upon the same terms as the medical bodies in this country.’ ”

The following is an extract from the Article referred to :

“ Each Local Society shall have the privilege of sending to the Association one delegate for every ten of its regular resident members, and one for every additional fraction of more than half of this number.”



# NAMES OF THE MEMBERS.

November 10, 1854.

## Active Members.

1851	Robert R. McILVAINE, M.D.	of Ohio.
—	I. Webb Scott, M.D.	» Kentucky.
—	J. T. Updegraff, M.D.	» Ohio.
—	Edmund W. Burton, M.D.	» Pennsylvania.
—	Sidney E. Babcock, M.D.	» South Carolina.
—	Samuel Choppin, M.D.	» Louisiana.
—	Gilbert S. Vance, M.D.	»
—	Elias E. Wilson, M.D.	» Pennsylvania.
—	Romain Schlatre, M.D.	» Louisiana.
—	Edward J. Rembert, M.D.	» South Carolina.
—	Francis C. Ellison, M.D.	» Georgia.
—	Alexander I. Semmes, M.D.	» Dist. of Columbia.
—	Junius A. Briggs, M.D.	» Virginia.
—	Benjamin J. B. Davis, M.D.	» Pennsylvania.
—	H. Rowland Walton, M.D.	» Maryland.
—	Christopher Happoldt, M.D.	» South Carolina.
—	William H. Mussey, M.D.	» Ohio.
—	J. F. M. Geddings, M.D.	» South Carolina.
—	Thomas Bevan, M.D.	» Ohio.
—	Charles A. Downes, M.D.	»
—	Walter F. Atlee, M.D.	» Pennsylvania.
—	Augustus Wilson, M.D.	»
—	R. M. Jones, M.D.	» Kentucky.
—	John R. Page, M.D.	» Virginia.
—	William A. Conway, M.D.	» Louisiana.
—	William C. Ravenel, M.D.	» South Carolina.
—	J. Gibson Dudley, M.D.	»
—	John G. Brodnax, M.D.	» Virginia.
1852	F. W. Schley, M.D.	» Georgia.
—	N. J. Pittman, M.D.	» North Carolina.
—	William H. Berry, M.D.	» Dist. of Columbia.
—	John F. Wright, M.D.	» Ohio.
—	Daniel D. Detwiler, M.D.	» Pennsylvania.
—	D. R. Hagner, M.D.	» Dist. of Columbia.
—	William C. Horlbeck, M.D.	» South Carolina.
—	Benjamin Vreeland, M.D.	» New York.
—	Philip C. Williams, M.D.	» Virginia.
—	William H. McCombs, M.D.	»

1852	Thomas Hewson Bache, M.D. . . . .	of Pennsylvania.
—	Winslow Lewis, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	John Wilkins, M.D. . . . .	» Maryland.
—	J. Duval, M.D. . . . .	» Kentucky.
—	R. J. Breckenridge, M.D. . . . .	»
—	Christopher Johnston, M.D. . . . .	» Maryland.
—	James M. Tomlinson, M.D. . . . .	» Indiana.
—	Robert W. Gibbs, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.
—	Lewis W. Oakley, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	Howard Townsend, M.D. . . . .	»
—	J. B. Lindsley, M.D. . . . .	» Tennessee.
—	William E. Johnston, M.D. . . . .	» Ohio.
—	William Law, M.D. . . . .	» Connecticut.
—	George Doane, M.D. . . . .	» New Jersey.
—	Asa S. Linthicum, M.D. . . . .	» Maryland.
—	F. Peyre Porcher, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.
—	John P. Reynolds, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	René Ravenel, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.
—	Julius F. Porcher, M.D. . . . .	»
—	Samuel Gourdin, M.D. . . . .	»
—	Adino B. Hall, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	William S. Halsey, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	William C. B. Fifield, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	C. B. Hutchins, M.D. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
—	Samuel C. Gholson, M.D. . . . .	» Ohio.
—	Elkanah Williams, M.D. . . . .	»
—	Charles Gresham, M.D. . . . .	» Virginia.
1853	B. L. Ball, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	H. R. Rogers, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	Charles S. Boker, M.D. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
—	Thomas H. Graves, M.D. . . . .	» Missouri.
—	J. Francis Mason, M.D. . . . .	» Virginia.
—	J. P. Judkins, M.D. . . . .	» Ohio.
—	John A. Murphy, M.D. . . . .	»
—	C. McDermont, M.D. . . . .	»
—	Charles C. Hayes, M.D. . . . .	» Maine.
—	E. P. Connell, M.D. . . . .	» Mississippi.
—	Ashton Miles, M.D. . . . .	» Kentucky.
—	J. L. Woodward, M.D. . . . .	» Ohio.
—	E. F. Smith, M.D. . . . .	» Missouri.
—	M. W. Brown, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	John W. Green, M.D. . . . .	»
—	H. L. H. Hoffendahl, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	W. F. Westmoreland, M.D. . . . .	» Georgia.
—	George S. Case, M.D. . . . .	» Missouri.
—	Charles F. Henry, M.D. . . . .	» Alabama.
—	E. B. Turnipseed, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.
—	Frank M. Hiester, M.D. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
—	Peter E. Hines, M.D. . . . .	» North Carolina.
—	Smith Ely, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	Edward B. Crowell, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.

1855	Henry Sargent, M.D. . . . .	of Massachusetts.
—	W. Edward Vermilye, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	E. Brown Séquard, M.D. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
—	Adam Hammar, M.D. . . . .	» Missouri.
—	Z. B. Adams, jr., M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	Richard H. Wheatland, M.D. . . . .	»
1854	David P. Holton, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	Thomas E. H. Cottman, M.D. . . . .	» Louisiana.
—	Francis Leland, M.D. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
—	B. St. George Peachy, M.D. . . . .	» Virginia.
—	J. C. H. Hobbs, M.D. . . . .	» Illinois.
—	John H. Packard, M.D. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
—	J. H. Hinton, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	James F. Schorch, M.D. . . . .	» Kentucky.
—	Thomas Sanders, M.D. . . . .	»
—	C. T. Powe, M.D. . . . .	» North Carolina.
—	Austin Flint, M.D. . . . .	» New York.
—	Zane Johnston, M.D. . . . .	» Kentucky.
—	Frank Grube, M.D. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
—	R. S. Kinloch, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.
—	T. E. Broadbuss, M.D. . . . .	» Louisiana.
—	W. A. Bradley, M.D. . . . .	» Dist. of Columbia.
—	John F. Kennedy, M.D. . . . .	» Alabama.
—	George A. Pierce, M.D. . . . .	» Rhode Island.
—	E. E. Jenkins, M.D. . . . .	» South Carolina.
—	E. S. Cooper, M.D. . . . .	» Illinois.

#### Honorary Members.

Prof. Alexander J. Wedderburne. . . . .	of Louisiana.
Dr. Philippe Ricord. . . . .	» Paris.
Prof. Samuel Jackson. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
Dr. Claude Bernard. . . . .	» Paris.
Dr. Leroy d'Etiolles. . . . .	»
Prof. John C. Warren. . . . .	» Massachusetts.
Dr. C. S. J. Goodrich. . . . .	» Lyons, France.
Prof. George B. Wood. . . . .	» Pennsylvania.
Dr. P. C. Gooch. . . . .	» Virginia.
Prof. Samuel Henry Dickson. . . . .	» South Carolina.
Prof. Reuben D. Mussey. . . . .	» Ohio.
Prof. M. B. Wright. . . . .	»

#### Privileged Members.

Mr. H. Easterling. . . . .	of South Carolina.
Mr. O. Metcalf. . . . .	» Mississippi.
Mr. Ehrick Parmly. . . . .	» New York.
Mr. Alfred Mercier. . . . .	» Louisiana.
Mr. G. M. Eichelberger. . . . .	» South Carolina.
Mr. Felix Guibourd. . . . .	» Missouri.
Dr. Henry L. Meding. . . . .	» Saxony.

Dr. Karl Schaible. . . . .	of Baden
Dr. George Harley. . . . .	» Edinburgh.
Mr. A. Destruye. . . . .	» Venezuela (S. A.)
Mr. J. Murray. . . . .	» Dublin.
Mr. Alexander Wieland. . . . .	» Cuba.
Prof. C. de Huebбенet. . . . .	» Kiew, Russia.
Dr. Henry Madge. . . . .	» Devon, England.
Mr. Augustus Hamlin. . . . .	» Maine.
Mr. Henry Lolliot. . . . .	» Mauritius.
Mr. Louis S. Himely. . . . .	» Cuba.
Mr. Frank Powell. . . . .	» London.
Dr. G. Ceccorini. . . . .	» Rome.
Mr. Richard S. Kissam, jr. . . . .	» New York.

#### Permanent Members.

William C. Ravenel, M.D. . . . .	of South Carolina.
N. J. Pittman, M.D. . . . .	» North Carolina.
William H. Mussey, M.D. . . . .	» Ohio.

#### Presidents of the Society to the present date.

1851 ROBERT R. McILVAINE. . . . .	Ohio.
1852 SAMUEL CHOPPIN. . . . .	Louisiana.
— EDWARD J. REMBERT. . . . .	South Carolina.
— N. J. PITTMANN. . . . .	North Carolina
1853 WILLIAM E. JOHNSTON. . . . .	Ohio.
— A. B. HALL. . . . .	Massachusetts
— ELKANAH WILLIAMS. . . . .	Ohio.
1854 JESSE P. JUDKINS. . . . .	"
— WILLIAM E. JOHNSTON. . . . .	"
— WILLIAM E. JOHNSTON. . . . .	"

#### SOCIETY'S ROOMS,

Hôtel des Américains, 6, rue des Quatre-Vents.

NEAR THE RUE DE SEINE.

Hall of "The American Medical Society in Paris."  
Rue des Quatre Vents N<sup>o</sup>. 6 - Paris July 4<sup>th</sup> 1855

Sir-

In obedience to a resolution of "The American Medical Society in Paris", the undersigned in addressing you a copy of its lately published Constitution and Catalogue, have been instructed at the same time to direct your attention to certain facts in regard to the Society, which it is hoped may prove of interest to you and to the profession generally in the United States—

This Society occupies an exceptional position, and one which might enable it to be the medium of doing great service to the profession in the United States by means of an international exchange of professional labours.

The American physician still encounters in the wards of the Parisian Hospitals the sneering question— "What have you ever done in America to advance the science of Medicine?"

The almost complete forgetfulness with which the profession of the United States is passed over on the one hand, and the ridicule with which it is treated on the other, have taught such of us as know most of the opinions and the tone of the medical men of this country, that a remedy for this state of things is demanded, and that some means ought to be adopted to put the remedy into execution—

There are honourable exceptions to these appreciations of the labours of the profession in the United States, but they do not extend to any considerable portion of the profession of this Country; and when we hear so distinguished a man as the Learned Professor of Surgery of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, declare in his official Lecture at the School of Medicine, while ridiculing American pretensions to originality in Surgery, "that because the Americans had discovered Anæsthesia, they had become so puffed up, as not to be able longer to realize their true position in the world of Surgery" - we think that some efforts ought to be made by the profession in the United States to correct this erroneous estimate of their labours, and to show to the profession of France, that their brethren of the United States have rendered valuable services even to French Surgery.

"The American Medical Society in Paris" has, by the facts which it has furnished from time to time to French Medical Authors, contributed in a measure to dissipate these mal-appreciations, and has thus succeeded in introducing into French works, flattering notices of the successes of American Surgery - Successes of which the eminent French Authors had no previous knowledge, and which would never have found a place in their works, but for the existence of the American Library at Paris -

The Committee therefore appeals to the  
profession in the United States, to Authors,  
and publishers especially, to send contributions  
to the Library of "the American Medical  
Society in Paris" -

The Society places its claims for the sympathy  
of the profession at large upon national  
grounds - for from its geographical position,  
and frequent change of members, it is  
supported more by patriotic than by personal  
motives - and it is upon these grounds that  
this appeal is made -

Through the politeness of Mr. Bossange  
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to the Society will arrive safely -

W. E. Johnston M.D. Pres.  
David P. Holton M.D. Libr. } Committee  
Saml. Gourdin M.D. Cor. Secy }

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